

Health, Library Services 'Threatened' for Torrance

Chace Answers City Complaint

A possibility that county services contracted by the city of Torrance such as library, health center, and others might be cancelled because of the city's protest over the county's "Lakewood Plan" of offering municipal services was raised this week by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Answering the city's resolutions to the county, asking that the contract services to cities be ended, Chace's deputy, Richard Newton, informed the city that Torrance had 10 such contracts, according to the records of the county.

"If we understand your resolution correctly, we are assuming that this is official notification to the County to cancel the above 10 agreements between the city of Torrance and the county of Los Angeles," Chace's deputy wrote.

The 10 services listed by the supervisor included:

1. Use of the sheriff's teletype network.
2. Housing of prisoners.
3. Library service.
4. Enforcement of health ordinances.
5. Civil Defense.

6. Services of Registrar of Voters at election time.
7. Assessment and collection of taxes.
8. Personnel services of Civil Service Commission.
9. Emergency ambulance service.
10. Traffic signal maintenance.

City Manager George Stevens said one item, the personnel service, could be deleted from the list. The city last year dropped the county service and employed a private firm to handle Civil Service examinations.

The traffic signal maintenance is only an agreement on signals which lie in intersections where city and county boundaries divide the jurisdiction, he added.

At the same time, however, he admitted that the city would be in a spot if it had to start assessing and collecting its own taxes, and had to take over health department functions and library services without county aid.

The possibility that Chace's office was having a little fun with the situation was raised by several officials who were apprised of the letter.



(Herald Photo)

CARRYING THE COLORS . . . Leading the colorful Rancho Days parade yesterday morning was this American Legion Color Guard. More than 250 units participated in the parade through downtown Torrance to the Civic Center. Rancho Days activities continue this afternoon with a rodeo and exhibits at the Civic Center.

\$1.5 Million in Federal Funds Added to South Hi

The Torrance Unified School District will receive \$1,510,000 in federal funds for building the second units of South High School, Sen. Thomas Kuchel announced in a telegram to the HERALD Friday.

The money is to be given to the local schools under Public Law 815, by which money is given to the school districts for children of employes of businesses holding

This will bring the total building grants from the government since 1951 to \$4,018,060.

Money Saved

"This means a considerable saving to the taxpayers," Superintendent J. H. Hull said.

"This has been the result of an attempt upon the part of the Board of Education to maintain local control of the building program through making our own bond funds go as far as possible with the aid of federal grants," Board President Joseph G. Arnold declared.

Due to the rapid growth of the city, the school district has had to join the state aid building program for elementary schools only. Assistant Superintendent S. E. Waldrip recently made a trip to Sacramento in which he argued that previous federal funds received by Torrance should be used for high schools rather than included in the state aid building program.

Experts Said No

The decision to seek the federal funds was made against the advice of many experts, Hull said.

Dr. Warren Hamilton, director of special services and the school district's expert on federal law on schools, flew to San Francisco to present the

Rivets Reports

It'll be a good day to go to Rancho Days donings at the Civic Center and the rodeo this afternoon, Rivets reported, as he studied his dog-meter. It'll be sunny today, despite a early morning clouds. There is just a bare possibility of sprinkles late this afternoon, he barked.



SUNNY

Highs and lows this week included Thursday (79-63), Friday (78-64), Saturday (76-63).

district's case for the funds. The success of his efforts became known this week.

It now appears that Torrance will be able to maintain its high school construction program without seeking state aid, Hull said. South High, currently under construction, is scheduled to open this fall, but further units will be added to the school later. A fourth high school in west Torrance is planned within two or three years.

In addition to the \$4,000,000 in building funds, the district also has received \$142,000 annually for operating costs from the federal government, Hull said, thus relieving the taxpayer of about \$850,000 in taxes.

Other school buildings in Torrance built since 1951 with federal funds include Wood, Steele, Crenshaw, and parts of Carr, WALTERIA, and South High Schools.

Torrance is one of a very few districts in the county to receive Public Law 815 funds.

12-Year-Old On Critical List

Twelve-year-old Sidney Friestad, 2727 W. 167th St., remained in critical condition yesterday at Harbor General Hospital following an accident Wednesday.

However, hospital officials report the youth is improving. The youngster was hit by a car as he was crossing Crenshaw Blvd. at 171st St., according to police.

Driver of the car was Lloyd Pick, 16, of 18415 Crenshaw Blvd. In another accident Thursday one person was injured when two cars collided on Pacific Coast Hwy. near the Halfway House.

Robert Jack Rushing, 35, of 20009 Saltee Ave., was traveling west on Pacific Coast Hwy. as was the driver of the second car, Richard Davis Miller, 45, of Manhattan Beach.

Injured was Gloria Miller, who was taken to Harbor General Hospital.

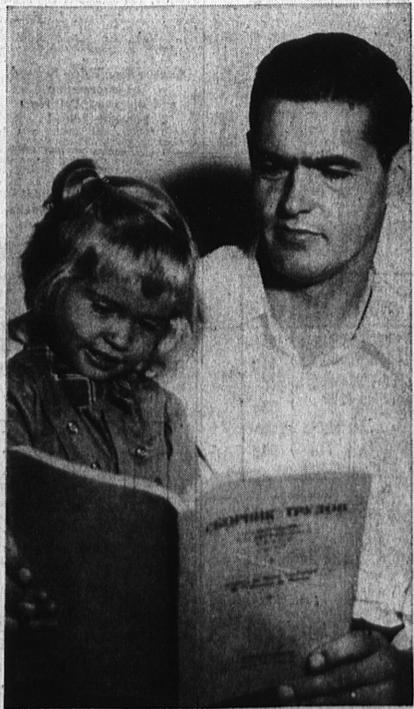
Civitan Has Ladies' Night

Ladies' night was observed by the Torrance Civitan Club at its meeting at the Villa Capri last Wednesday, with Capt. Douglas Horlander and the Torrance National Guard unit presenting a civil defense program.

Six members were installed

by Dr. Courtney Shropshire, international president of Civitan. Organ music was played by Ted Whiting.

The next meeting, on Aug. 7, will feature a program about hot-rodding, presented by the Richfield Oil Co.



(Herald Photo)

"IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME" . . . That's what little Susan Dearden, 3, is telling her father, Dr. Lyle Dearden, as they look at a Russian technical journal which her father received from Moscow. Dr. Dearden persuaded Russian scientists to lift the Iron Curtain an inch or so, to exchange some skins and bodies of mice, rats, ground squirrels, and moles.



(Herald Photo)

NO. 1 GETS A KEY . . . When little Colleen O'Brien was born Thursday at Riviera Hospital, she was presented with a key to the city as the first baby born at the new hospital. Here, her proud mother, Mrs. Lowell O'Brien, beams as Mrs. Barbara Kysor makes the presentation on behalf of the hospital. The first three babies born at the new hospital were girls.

City Named In Bus Suit

Torrance Municipal Bus Lines has been named defendant in a \$30,588 suit.

The suit was filed in Inglewood Superior Court by Mrs. Bernadine Hinton, 19406 Sturges Dr.

Mrs. Hinton claims a city bus struck her car on March 22 at the corner of Lincoln Ave. and Cabrillo Ave. in Torrance.

She alleges that the mishap caused severe personal hardship, injury and damages to herself, her automobile, and her two young sons, Michael and Jeffrey, who were passengers in the car.

Gals Lead Riviera Baby Derby By 3-0

The ladies are ahead 3-0 in the baby derby at the new Riviera Hospital.

The first three arrivals in the maternity ward were all female — the mothers. But more unusual, they all gave birth to baby girls.

First to make her appearance was Colleen Ann O'Brien, born to Mrs. Lowell O'Brien, 25612 President Ave., Harbor City, who arrived at 11:34 a.m., Thursday, with Dr. H. L. Pennington attending. She weighed 7 lb. 4 oz.

In honor of the happy occasion, she was presented with a key to the city by City Councilman Nicholas O. Drale. Colleen didn't seem much impressed, but her mother was.

This was the first O'Brien child. The father is employed by the Great Lakes Carbon Corp.

A few hours later, at 7 p.m., a second girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Martin, 21726 Tallman Ave. She tipped the scales at 8 lb. 4 oz.

Giving the female even greater predominance was the arrival of a baby daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Tinker, San Pedro, at 8:44 p.m., Friday.

Iron Curtain Lifts an Inch; Mice, Squirrels Sneak Out

The Iron Curtain has lifted enough to let out a few mice, squirrels, chipmunks, rats, and moles, according to a Torrance resident.

Dr. Lyle Dearden, 3217 W. 177th St., assistant professor of anatomy at the University of Southern California, has received a shipment of small

mammals and copies of research articles from Russia in what is believed to be the first exchange of its type since before the Russian Revolution in 1917.

Took Three Years

But it wasn't easy to raise the curtain even an inch. It took Dr. Dearden three years to arrange for the exchange of 32 skins and skulls from Moscow for a like number of California and Utah field mice, squirrels, and gophers.

According to Dr. William V. Mayer, associate professor of biology at USC, only four other large institutions in this country have skins and skulls of Russian mammals for comparison with native species. They include the National Museum, Washington D. C.; American Museum of Natural History, New York City; Harvard University; and the Chicago Natural History Museum.

For three years, Dr. Dearden has been attempting to get the exchange of specimens. It began when he was in Massachusetts about 1954. He wrote many letters to scientific leaders in Russia.

No Names, Please

Then a German scientist gave him a tip which paid off: "Never write to anyone in Russia by name."

Dr. Dearden then addressed his request to "The Director of the Academy of Science in Moscow." After a year, he finally received a reply. After that it took only a month to exchange the specimens and some scientific journals.

Although his letters are in English, the replies are in Russian, which he has to have translated. The Russians also sent a number of scientific journals, also in Russian, but no comments other than on a purely scientific level.

Anatomy Compared

The local resident's interest in the Russian specimens is on the basis of comparative anatomy of the animals from the two countries. Some, he reports, are very similar, while others are totally different.

He is also interested in animals on the basis of the fact that the American variety can be carriers of sylvatic plague,

which is similar to bubonic plague, and is always fatal. Mice in agricultural areas may carry bugs which spread the plague to domestic animals and to humans, Dr. Dearden said. Although there have been no recent reports of the dread disease, he said, it was widespread during the last century and could conceivably occur again, although there can be vaccinations against it.

Disease Eyed

He hopes that studies of the Russian specimens will help to give aid with his studies of the disease.

The Russians first sent some mice preserved in alcohol. Dr. Dearden said. Some of these mice differ radically in anatomy from their American cousins, and he has written several articles for scientific journals describing his findings.

According to Dr. Mayer, the Russians sent several squirrel specimens and a Russian water rat which were different than anything he had ever seen.

Dr. Dearden gave half of the preserved animals to Dr. S. D. Durant, University of Utah biologist. A graduate of the University of Utah, Dr. Dearden formerly taught at the University of Massachusetts. He, his wife, and three children have lived in Torrance for two years.

Superior Court Hearing Set for 2 Dope Suspects

Two local men arrested July 18 in a raid which netted some \$5000 in narcotics were bound over to Long Beach Superior Court for an Aug. 9 hearing by South Bay Municipal Judge John A. Shidler Friday.

Robert Lemaster, 726 Portola, and Thomas J. Britt, 23841 Eshelman Ave., Lomita, were charged with possession of narcotics.

Torrance police and sheriff's narcotics squad members combined in a raid on the two men's homes July 18, and came up with nearly \$5000 worth of marijuana and other narcotics. They had to kick in the front doors of the homes when they were refused admission.

Police investigated the possibility that the dope was slated to go to pushers for sale to teenagers in this area.

Both men were narcotics users, officers said, and Britt had a previous record of arrests.

Supplemental Security for City Studied

The city's participation in the federal government's social security program — benefiting city employes — will be held up temporarily.

City councilmen Tuesday night concurred with a recommendation to postpone the program, made by Don Mansfield, assistant city manager.

Reason given by Mansfield, for the delay is to allow him time to find out if the federal plan is the best that can be obtained for all city employes.

Johnathan Dunmyer, representing miscellaneous city employes, reminded councilmen he appeared several weeks ago to ask that his group be given added retirement benefits offered in social security.

Supplement Plan

At that time the City Council agreed miscellaneous employes should be given Old Age Survivors Insurance as a supplement to their present state retirement plan.

However, Mansfield said he hoped to have a meeting of all miscellaneous city employes to explain advantages of a modified OASI-state retirement plan combination before the City Council's decision is carried out.

This idea was frowned on by both Councilmen Nicholas O. Drale and Dunmyer.

Drale said as far as he was concerned the City Council had already approved OASI for city employes and no further discussion was necessary.

Immediate Need

Dunmyer told councilmen he represented miscellaneous employes and they were in fa-

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Firemen Quell Fire in Chair

A cigarette dropped in a chair at 4923 Towers St., apparently started a small blaze about 1 a.m. Friday, according to Torrance firemen.

The fire was quickly put out and there was only small damage outside of the chair at the Fern Lamb residence.

In other action, firemen also were called out to quell a rubbish fire which spread to a fence and the garage door at the Stanley Hall home, 1104 Amapola Ave., Friday.

They also battled a blaze at the city dump for nearly five hours Friday.